



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**  
Toshihiko Ashikari et al.

**Examiner:** Medina Ahmed Ibrahim

**Application No.:** 08/894,356

**Group Art Unit:** 1638

**Filed:** August 18, 1997

**Confirmation No.:** 8892

**Title:** GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN HAVING ACYL GROUP TRANSFER ACTIVITY

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

BOX AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 29, 2005, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and enter the following amendments and arguments in the above-identified application. An extension of time and corresponding fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) extending the period of response until May 1, 2006 (April 29 is a Saturday) are submitted concurrently herewith.